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Words, Phrases, and Quotations from the Latin, French, Italian, and Spanish; and a brief, but very serviceable, Dictionary of the Deities, Heroes, and Fabulous Personages in Classical Mythology. It will be perceived from this synopsis, that the volume well merits its title of "Comprehensive"; and there is no portion of it in which the execution does not betray the care, skill, and learning of the compiler, and bear manifest traces of his matured experience in all those minor details of arrangement and typography, which have no slight bearing on the value of a book designed for daily and constant use. While Dr. Worcester's quarto Dictionary will remain a permanent memorial of his erudition and industry, this more compendious work, in an humbler, yet even more important, line of service, must find its way at least into every portion of our own country, and will render essential aid in securing uniformity, and preserving purity in speech and writing throughout the so widely separated portions of our republic.

24. — *The Lives of Dr. John Donne, Sir Henry Wotton, Richard Hooker, George Herbert, and Dr. Robert Sanderson.* By IZAAK WALTON · with some Account of the Author and his Writings, by THOMAS ZOUCH, D. D., F. L. S., Prebendary of Durham. New Edition, with Illustrative Notes, complete in One Volume. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, Lee, & Co. 1860. Small 8vo. pp. 386.

THE great popularity which Walton's "Complete Angler" early acquired, and still maintains, has quite overshadowed the reputation which he would otherwise have enjoyed as a biographer. Yet his "Lives" have the same simple beauty of style, and reveal the same gentle nature, which have given celebrity to that delightful work; and, as a whole, they form one of the most charming series of biographies in our language. Written with no ambitious purpose, they bring before us brief but admirable sketches of some of the truest and best men of their age; and notwithstanding the great changes, both in habits of thought and in modes of expression, since Walton wrote, we read these memoirs with an interest which may be traced partly to their subjects and partly to the felicity of treatment. Though Walton lived in a period of intense political excitement, followed by an age of gross immorality, and though he was for some time engaged in business as a small tradesman, his own life was such as to fit him especially to be the biographer of poets and divines. His tastes allied him with whatever was pure, simple, and truthful; and in the lives of the men whom he has commemorated he found a congenial theme, which he treated with con-

scientious fidelity according to his own judgment, if not always with a just perception of the real facts to be recorded. The task which he undertook was a labor of love; and he performed it in a modest and loving spirit. As Wordsworth finely says:—

“There are no colors in the fairest sky,
So fair as these : the feather whence the pen
Was shaped, that traced the lives of these good men,
Dropt from an angel's wing : with moistened eye,
We read of faith, and purest charity,
In Statesman, Priest, and humble Citizen.”

The merits of this edition of the “Lives” are too well known to require especial notice. We need only say, that the volume contains a copious body of notes, a very good Index, and a brief memoir of Walton by Dr. Zouch, who is also known as the author of a Life of Sir Philip Sidney that enjoys some reputation. We ought to add a word of commendation as to the manner in which the volume has been reprinted. Uniform in size and appearance with the beautiful edition of Lamb's Works, noticed on a previous page, it will take its place by the side of the best specimens of either English or American typography. In a word, the book is offered to us in a garb worthy of its contents.

25. — *A History of England during the Reign of George the Third.*

By WILLIAM MASSEY, M. P. Vol. III. 1781 – 1793. London : John W. Parker and Son. 1860. 8vo. pp. 511.

THE new volume of Mr. Massey's History confirms the favorable opinion of his merits as an historian which we expressed on the publication of his second volume, and particularly as to his candor and impartiality in dealing with the party conflicts which so largely occupy his attention. The period comprised in this part of his narrative is one of the most memorable in English history, and was marked by a bitterness of party warfare seldom equalled. It includes the closing years of the American War and the commencement of the wars which grew out of the French Revolution; the rise and fall of the Rockingham ministry and of the Coalition ministry of Fox and Lord North, together with the first decade of the administration of the younger Pitt; the rupture between Fox and Burke; the impeachment of Hastings; and many other events of scarcely less significance. Yet over this period Mr. Massey passes with a candor and fairness of statement which few English historians have evinced in their treatment of these exciting topics. Though his sympathies are in general with the liberal